

**DE DISTRACTED DRIVING DEMO
PHONE IN ONE HAND.
TICKET IN THE OTHER
FACT SHEET/TALKING POINTS**



***Phone in One Hand. Ticket in the Other* Campaign
Cracking Down on Distracted Driving**

- The Delaware Office of Highway Safety, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and law enforcement partners across the state, are launching a new high visibility enforcement campaign called, *Phone in One Hand. Ticket in the Other.* to reduce distracted driving and save lives on Delaware's roadways.
- Beginning November 7 through November 20, 2012, all Delaware police departments are making sure drivers keep their eyes on the road and hands on the wheel, as the law enforcement organizations across the state implement this special enforcement campaign.
- In 2011, Delaware law enforcement officers issued 9,842 cell phone citations to drivers using their handheld cell phone device while driving, but too many drivers are still not getting the message.
- Distraction occurs any time you take your eyes off the road, your hands off the wheel, and your mind off your primary task: driving safely. Any non-driving activity you engage in is a potential distraction and increases your risk of crashing or receiving a ticket.
- If law enforcement sees you talking on your cell phone or texting while driving, they will give you a ticket. *Phone in One Hand. Ticket in the Other.*

Research on Distracted Driving Reveals Some Surprising Facts:

- In Delaware during 2011, 138 cell phone-related crashes took place in the state. [\(Delaware State Police\)](#)
- Nationally in 2010, 3,092 people were killed in crashes involving a distracted driver, and an estimated 416,000 others were injured in motor vehicle crashes involving a distracted driver, according to NHTSA.
- NHTSA data shows, 18 percent of injury crashes in the U.S. in 2010 were reported as distraction-affected crashes.

- According to NHTSA, the age group with the greatest proportion of distracted drivers is the under-20 age group – 11 percent of all drivers under the age of 20 involved in fatal crashes were reported as distracted at the time of the crash.
- Forty percent of American teens say they have been in a car when the driver used a cell phone in a way that put people in danger. ([Pew](#))
- Drivers who use handheld devices are four times more likely to get into crashes serious enough to injure themselves. ([Monash University](#))
- Sending or receiving a text takes a driver's eyes from the road for an average of 4.6 seconds, the equivalent of driving blind at 55-mph for the length of an entire football field. ([VTTI](#))
- These deadly statistics are why every police department in Delaware will be out enforcing handheld cell phone and texting laws to make the roads as safe as possible for everyone.

Distracted Driving Laws in Delaware:

- Delaware's primary distracted driving laws ban the following:
 - Texting and using handheld cell phone devices by all drivers
 - All cell phone (handheld and hands-free) by drivers with a learner's permit
 - All cell phone use (handheld and hands-free) by school bus drivers

Other Distracted Driving Information You Need To Know:

- Because text messaging requires visual, manual, and cognitive attention simultaneously from the driver, it is by far the most alarming distraction.

Other distractions include:

- Eating and drinking
- Attending to children
- Talking to other passengers
- Using head phones
- Grooming/applying makeup
- Reading, including maps
- Using an electronic device/navigation system
- Tuning the radio
- External distraction outside the vehicle

Phone in One Hand. Ticket in the Other.

Delaware drivers should know that law enforcement is stepping-up enforcement to save lives on Delaware roadways this November. Remember: *Phone in One Hand. Ticket in the Other.* For more information on distracted driving, please visit www.distraction.gov/delaware.